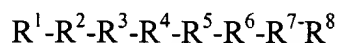


Amendments to the claims

1-48. (Previously canceled)

49. (Previously added) A method for treating or preventing a bone disorder that results in weakened bones, comprising the administration of an amount effective for treating or preventing a bone disorder in a patient in need thereof at least one active agent comprising a sequence of at least three contiguous amino acids of groups R^1 - R^8 in the sequence of general formula I



wherein R^1 is selected from H, Asp, Glu, Asn, Acpc (1-aminocyclopentane carboxylic acid), Ala, Me²Gly, Pro, Bet, Glu(NH₂), Gly, Asp(NH₂) and Suc,

R^2 is selected from Arg, Lys, Ala, Orn, Citron, Ser(Ac), Sar, D-Arg and D-Lys;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of Val, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Ile, Gly, Pro, Aib, Acpc and Tyr;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of Tyr, Tyr(PO₃)₂, Thr, Ala, Ser, homoSer and azaTyr;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of Ile, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Val and Gly;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of His, Arg or 6-NH₂-Phe;

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of Pro or Ala; and

R^8 is selected from the group consisting of Phe, Phe(Br), Ile and Tyr; excluding sequences including R^4 as a terminal Tyr group, or is absent.

50. (Previously added) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent comprises at least four contiguous amino acids of general formula I.

51. (Previously added) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent comprises at least five contiguous amino acids of general formula I.

52. (Previously added) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent comprises at least six contiguous amino acids of general formula I.

53. (Previously added) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent comprises at least seven contiguous amino acids of general formula I.

54. (Amended) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of [angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:1, ~~SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17,~~ SEQ ID NO:18, [~~SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34; SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, SEQ ID NO:42, SEQ ID NO:43, SEQ ID NO:44, and SEQ ID NO:45~~].

55. (Canceled) [~~The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34; SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, SEQ ID NO:42, SEQ ID NO:43, SEQ ID NO:44, and SEQ ID NO:45.~~]

56. (Canceled) [~~The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34; SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, SEQ ID NO:42, SEQ ID NO:43, SEQ ID NO:44, and SEQ ID NO:45, wherein the active agent does not consist essentially of SEQ ID NO:1.~~]

57. (Previously added) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent consists of at least three contiguous amino acids of general formula I.
58. (Previously added) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent consist of at least four contiguous amino acids of general formula I.
59. (Previously added) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent consist of at least five contiguous amino acids of general formula I.
60. (Previously added) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent consist of at least six contiguous amino acids of general formula I.
61. (Previously added) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent consist of at least seven contiguous amino acids of general formula I.
62. (Amended) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of [~~angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17,~~] SEQ ID NO:18, [~~SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34; SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, SEQ ID NO:42, SEQ ID NO:43, SEQ ID NO:44, and SEQ ID NO:45~~].
63. (Canceled) [~~The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34; SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, SEQ ID NO:42, SEQ ID NO:43, SEQ ID NO:44, and SEQ ID NO:45.~~]

64. (Canceled) [~~The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, SEQ ID NO:42, SEQ ID NO:43, SEQ ID NO:44, and SEQ ID NO:45.~~]

65. (Previously added) The method of claim 49 wherein the active agent does not consist of SEQ ID NO:1.

66. (Amended) The method of any of claims 49-54, 57-62, and 65, wherein the bone disorder that results in weakened bones is selected from the group consisting of osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, Paget's disease, osteomalacia, periodontal disease, bone loss resulting from cancer, bone loss resulting from steroid use, and age-related loss of bone mass.